

1555

Peace of Augsburg

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Peace of Augsburg Tempers Religious Divisions

The Treaty of Augsburg which was made at the imperial diet there in 1555, brought an end to the religious wars that had raged in Reformation Germany. It had 2 main provisions,

- ① that princes should be free to choose either Lutheranism or Catholicism for their principalities (while granting dissenters the right to leave);
- and ② Both faiths should be protected without disability in free and independent cities.

Together with the decrees of the Council of Trent (1545-63), the treaty sealed the schism in the Church. And just as the Council strengthened the papacy at the empire's expense, so the treaty dealt a death blow to the already fading vision of a universal empire and greatly enhanced the pretensions of the emerging national monarchies of Europe.

1555

Latimer & Ridley Burned at the stake
by Mary I of England.

In the Autumn of 1555, they were
tried and condemned for heresy in
Oxford. Latimer and Ridley were forthwith
burned at the stake. Archbishop Crommer
was returned to prison in the hope that
he might there recant. After a few months'
torment, he did, but when brought to St. Mary's
Church to make a public confession, he refused

to do so

1555

Paul IV (1555-1559)

Pope Paul IV was a zealous reformer of morals and discipline and set his successors a needed example by abolishing the nepotism which his predecessors had practiced habitually for a hundred years past.

1555

By the Religious Peace of Augsburg, in 1555, Roman Catholics and adherents of the Augsburg Confession, later called Lutherans, were placed on a footing of equality, and it was agreed that each secular prince had the right to reject from his territory all those who did not accept the religion established by him. The Lutherans

monks were allowed to keep all the church property seized by them before the Treaty of Passau (1552)

The decrees of the Council of Trent in 1564. (in the eyes of some) nullified the Augsburg agreement

1555

Settlement of the religious question
in Germany by the peace of
Augsburg.

Charles resigns Netherlands and Italy to Philip
India: Humayun returns and
retakes Delhi.

1555

223rd pope. Marcellus II
Montepulciano, Italy.
Reigned only 22 days.

1555-1559

224th Pope
Naples, Italy,

Paul IV

Published a bull, in which
he forbade under excommunication
to establish slavery among the
Indians of the West Indies